Message Text

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TORUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5867
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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EO11652: NA

TAGS: CASC (ROSEBAUGH, LAWRENCE), SHUM, BR

SUBJ: ROSEBAUGH STATUS REPORT

REF: RECIFE 0035

- 1. ROSEBAUGH VISITED CONSULATE ON MARCH 22 IN CONNECTION WITH HIS PLANNED SUMMER TRIP TO THE US FOR VACATION AND CONSULTATIONS WITH THE OBLATE'S US HEADQUARTERS. IN ADDITION TO INQUIRING INTO US PASSPORT PROCEDURES, ROSEBAUGH ALSO DISCUSSED HIS TRIP AND CURRENT RELATIONSHIP WITH PERNAMBUCO AUTHORITIES DURING THE MEETING.
- 2. ROSEBAUGH IS AWARE THAT THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT HE WILL BE DENIED ENTRY TO BRAZIL AFTER VISITING THE US. HE HAS, HOWEVER, DECIDED

TO TRAVEL AT THIS TIME TO SEE HIS FAMILY. HE HAS DISCUSSED HIS SITUATION WITH DOM LAMARTINE, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF OLINDA AND RECIFE, AND BELIEVES THAT THE PROXIMITY OF HIS TRIP TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S RECENT VISIT AND THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS AND CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATION IN BRAZIL DECREASES THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE WILL ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTY IN RETURNING TO BRAZIL. HIS FINAL PLANS ARE NOT SET BUT AS HE MAY RETURN TO BRAZIL OVERLAND THROUGH LATIN AMERICA, HE MAY BE GONE FOR AS MUCH AS ONE YEAR.

3. IN CONNECTION WITH HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ROSEBAUGH STATED THAT WHILE HE HAS OBSERVED A MARKED RECENT INCREASE IN THE LEVEL OF POLICE VIOLENCE DIRECTED TOWARDS THE POOR, HE CONTINUES TO LIVE AND WORK UNDER OFFICIAL PROTECTION. HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT ON ONE RECENT OCCASION HE WAS NEARLY BEATEN HIMSELF AFTER HE INTERVENED BETWEEN TWO POLICEMEN AND THE ACCUSED THIEF THEY WERE BEATING. AFTER ONE OF THE POLICEMEN RECOGNIZED WHO HE WAS, ROSEBAUGH STATED, THEY INSTEAD ATTEMPTED TO EXPLAIN HOW THE

POLICE WERE ONLY ATTEMPTING TO PROTECT INNOCENT PEOPLE LIKE HIM FROM PETTY THIEVES AND "MARGINALS". HOFFENBERG

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Subject: ROSEBAUGH STATUS REPORT

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